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Lake Travis High School

Film History

Fall 2016

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

To acquire and develop an understanding of and a greater appreciation of the art and history of film. To position contemporary American and foreign cinema in its broader historical and cultural contexts. To enhance analysis skills to better understand film and the filmmakers' intentions.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

- View, discuss and analyze films
- Learn the basic history and vocabulary of cinema, as well as corresponding genres
- Analyze film techniques and styles
- Think critically about the act of filmmaking

COURSE TEXTS:

An Introduction to Film Studies
Teach Yourself Film Studies
How to Read a Movie
A Short Guide to Writing about Film
A History of Film

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

It is very important that you not be tardy and that you miss as few class periods as possible. Some of the films/clips that we will view are very obscure and rare and thus are very hard to find. They will not be available for rent at most video stores. Also, I will not loan out any of my copies of these films. If you miss a viewing of a film, you will have to come in before school to watch it. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU MISSED AND GET CAUGHT UP.** All of the films we watch will be tested material.

THERE IS ALSO A VERY STRICT CELL PHONE AND/OR ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY. THERE IS TO BE NO DEVICE TURNED ON AT ANY TIME DURING THE CLASS FOR ANY REASON. IF AT ANY TIME YOU TURN ON OR USE A PHONE, MP3 PLAYER OR ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE, IT WILL BE TAKEN UP AND KEPT AT MY DISCRETION.

Because we are working with a visual media, I will not tolerate anything that disturbs the class while we are viewing and/or discussing the films.

Tardy Policy: I will count you tardy if you aren't in the room by the time the bell rings. After three tardies your parent/guardian will be contacted. After the fourth you will automatically be referred to your AP.

Movies planned for Fall 2016:

Shorts: Thomas Edison, Lumiere Brothers, Georges Melies, D.W. Griffith, Edwin S. Porter

Clips: Intolerance (1916), Battleship Potemkin (1925), Metropolis (1927), Buster Keaton various

Full-Length Features:

Nosferatu (1922)
Bride of Frankenstein (1935)
Modern Times (1936)
Citizen Kane (1941)
Cat People (1942)
Double Indemnity (1944)
The Third Man (1949)
Sunset Blvd. (1950)
Bad Day at Black Rock (1955)
Duck Amuck (1953) & What's Opera Doc (1957)
Paths of Glory (1957)

Psycho (1960)
Cool Hand Luke (1967)
Yellow Submarine (1968)
Monty Python and the Holy Grail (1975)

Important Links:

Internet Movie Database www.imdb.com
New York Times film reviews www.nytimes.com
Rotten Tomatoes <http://www.rottentomatoes.com/>
Roger Ebert reviews <http://www.rogerebert.com/>

SUPPLIES:

1-2" Binder with plastic coating
Loose leaf paper
Blue, black and red ink pens

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

See LTHS Honor Code